

Information Sheet
Abandoned, Junked or Wrecked Vehicles
Chapter 22, Section 207, 208

1. Abandoned, junked, wrecked, inoperable or partially dismantled vehicles located on public or private property are considered a public nuisance for the following reasons:
 - A. Attractive nuisance creating a hazard to health and safety of minors.
 - B. Unsightly condition on property tends to reduce property values.
 - C. Promotes urban blight and deterioration of neighborhoods.
 - D. Invites plundering to create fire hazards.
2. The storage of these vehicles on public or private property within the City for a period in excess of ten (10) days is prohibited unless such vehicles are completely enclosed within a building or unless such vehicles are stored or parked on the property of a duly licensed commercial business when such parking or storing is necessary to the operation of the business.
3. A vehicle that does not have a current registration tag is classified as an inoperable vehicle irrespective of its condition.

Sec 22-207. Declared a public nuisance

The accumulation and storage of abandoned, wrecked, junked, partially dismantled or inoperable motor vehicles on public or private property is hereby found to create an unsightly condition upon the property tending to reduce the value thereof, to invite plundering, to create fire hazards, and to constitute an attractive nuisance creating a hazard to health and safety of minors. Such accumulation and storage of vehicles is further found to promote urban blight and deterioration in the community; to violate the zoning regulations of the city in many instances, particularly where such vehicles are maintained in the required yard area of residential property; and that such wrecked, junked, abandoned or partially dismantled or inoperable motor vehicles are in the nature of rubbish, litter, and unsightly debris in violation of health and sanitation laws. Therefore, the accumulation and storage of such vehicles on public and private property, except as expressly hereinafter permitted, is hereby declared to constitute a public nuisance which may be abated as such, which remedy shall be in addition to any other remedy provided in this Code.

Sec. 22-208. Storage on public or private property prohibited

No person shall park, store, leave or permit the parking, storing or leaving of any motor vehicle which is in a rusted, wrecked, junked, partially dismantled, inoperable or abandoned condition upon any property within the city for a period in excess of ten (10) days unless such vehicle is completely enclosed within a building or unless such vehicle is so stored or parked on the property in connection with a duly licensed business or commercial enterprise operated and conducted pursuant to law when such parking or storing of vehicles is necessary to the operation of the business or commercial enterprise.